

## NEWS

**Date:** April 13, 2006

**Contact:** Dave Fotsch, Public Information Officer  
(208) 327-8639 / Cell: (208) 871-1712

### **KIDS LEARN HOW DISEASE SPREADS WITH 'MOCK POX DAY'**

On Monday April 17, 2006 area youngsters will learn about the spread of disease through a fun activity called **'Mock Pox Day.'** Staff from the Central District Health Department (CDHD) will be at two area child care centers discussing with the children how germs are spread through coughing and sneezing on others, putting toys in their mouths, not washing hands, etc. **'Mock Pox Day'** is one of the activities leading up to the health district's celebration of National Infant Immunization Week, which kicks off Saturday April 22<sup>nd</sup> with a day of free immunizations for all children up to the age of 18 at the CDHD offices. The media are invited to cover **'Mock Pox Day'** see details below.

**WHO:** CDHD staff and children at area child care centers  
**WHAT:** Mock Pox Day – an educational outreach program of CDHD  
**WHEN:** Monday April 17, 2006  
**WHERE:**  
10:00 a.m. - Primary Colors - 3677 Copper Point, Meridian  
(near Eagle & Overland)  
3:30 p.m. – Kidz Inc. – 3250 N Shamrock, Boise  
(near Ustick & Cloverdale)  
**WHY:** To teach children how disease is spread  
**HOW:** Fun activities and games

For more information contact the CDHD Immunization Department at 327-7450.  
To arrange media coverage contact Dave Fotsch at 327-8639.

#####

# MOCK POX DAY

**One and two and three and four  
Five and six and more... and more..... CHICKEN POX!!!**

Diseases like chicken pox, whooping cough, and measles are contagious. If an ill child coughs or sneezes near another child or adult, that person might get sick.

You can participate in the **MOCK POX DAY** activities at your facility on April 17, 2006.  
Educate children about the spread of disease.  
Have fun helping children understand how chickenpox might spread to others.

## MOCK POX DAY! ACTIVITIES

- Read the story, *Itchy Itchy Chicken Pox*.
- Discuss how diseases/germs are spread by: coughing/sneezing on others, putting toys and other items in mouth, not washing hands, and not washing toys, towels, surfaces, etc.
- Divide children into two groups:  
Immunized  
Un-immunized
- **Immunized group** – teacher distributes Badge – I’ve Been Immunized!
- This group is given color page “Who Should Have Spots?” Teacher discusses why the child may not have spots due to immunization history.
- **Un-immunized group** – teacher distributes the red spots. Un-immunized children walk around the group(s) spreading the disease of chicken pox to each other by placing red dots on arms and faces. Red dots can also be sent home with children to spread disease at home.
- Trade groups so children have an opportunity to be in both immunized and un-immunized groups.

## FREE IMMUNIZATION CLINIC

Saturday, April 22  
Central District Health Department  
707 N. Armstrong Place  
9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

An immunization clinic for children will be offered to the public. Immunizations will be provided free. Encourage parents to update their children’s immunizations that day. Remind parents to bring shot records to the Health Department.  
Let your parents know!

### Sponsored by:



### Community Partners:

- Boise Police
- Boise Fire
- Babies R Us
- Brown Rental
- Idaho Dairy Council
- St. Vincent De Paul “Book Blitz”
- Cable One

